

CLAIMS

1. A restraint device for an animal, the device (1) comprising a neck collar (2) for the animal having inter-engagable ends, a surface of the collar (2) having longitudinally spaced apart lead guide means (L1-L4) mounted on either side of the longitudinal centre of the collar (2); a lead (4) passing through said lead guide means (L1-L4) and having stop means (D1, D2) at each end to which a leash is attachable; slider means (10) mounted on the lead (4), located between said guide means (L1, L2) and arranged to allow a portion of the lead (4) to assume a generally noose-like shape to encompass the nose and mouth region of the animal, wherein the lead (4) comprises securing means (C1, C2) at or towards either end thereof, arranged to be secured or secureable together, or to a part of the device (1), once the leash has been removed from said stop means (D1, D2).
2. A device (1) according to Claim 1, wherein said guide means (L1-L4) are arranged as two outer guide means (L3, L4) which are engagable with said stop means (D1, D2) and two inner guide means (L1, L2) which are located one on each side of the longitudinal centre of the collar (4).
3. A device (1) according to Claim 2, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) are secureable to said inner guide means.
4. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) are securable to one another.

5. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) are securable to the collar (2).
6. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein the lead (4) is from about 2.5 to 1.5 times longer than the collar (2).
7. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) comprise sprung clips, say sprung metal or plastics clips.
8. A device (1) according to any of Claims 1 to 6, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) comprise mutually engagable hook-and-eye fasteners.
9. A device (1) according to any of Claims 1 to 6, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) comprise fabric mutually engagable hook-and-eye fixings, secured (e.g. sewn) to the ends of the lead.
10. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein said securing means (C1, C2) are securable together underneath the animals' mouth and nose region.
11. A device (1) according to any preceding Claim, wherein said slider means (10) is made of a material which does not cause an allergic reaction in the animal to which the device is to be attached.
12. An animal restraint device (1) comprising a collar (2) arranged to be secured about an animal's neck and lead means (4) retained on the collar (2) and having a portion arranged to encompass the animal's muzzle, in use; said lead means (4) having two

ends to which a leash is securable, the ends of said lead means being securable together or to the collar (2) when not secured to a leash.

13. An animal restraint device (1) comprising a collar (2) arranged to be secured about an animal's neck and lead means (4) retained on the collar (2) and having a portion arranged to encompass the animal's muzzle, in use; said lead means (4) having two ends to which a leash is securable, the ends of said lead means being securable together or to the collar (2) when not secured to a leash and wherein all parts of the device (1) which, in use, are likely to contact the skin or fur of the animal are formed from material or materials which are not known, or, at least, are considered less likely, to cause allergic reactions to the animal.
14. A device (1) according to Claim 13, comprising slider means (10) through which said lead means (4) extends to form the portion to encompass the animal's muzzle.
15. A device (1) according to Claim 14, wherein said slider means (10) comprises a pair of friction surfaces against which said lead means (4) bears and which friction surfaces allow the free, or at least substantially unimpeded, passage of said lead means (4).